

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 012613

PANAMA FOR RTC, SAN SALVADOR FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: CHIEF OF MISSION, SECURITY

REF: MANAGUA 0165

1. IN RESPONSE TO MANAGUA'S REQUEST FOR SECURITY ASSIS-
TANCE, SY HAS DISPATCHED SPECIAL AGENT KELLY FROM
WASHINGTON AND REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER DEWITT FROM BUENOS
AIRES TO PROVIDE CLOSE BODYGUARD SUPPORT FOR AMBASSADOR
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SOLAUN UNTIL SUCH TIME AS SECURITY CONDITIONS IMPROVE TO
PERMIT THEIR WITHDRAWAL. OBVIOUSLY, FOR A NUMBER O REA-
SONS, INCLUDING HOST GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY
AND PROTECTION OF ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, THE DE-
PARTMENT WOULD PREFER THAT HOST GOVERNMENT RESUME FULL
PROTECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES SHOULD CIRCUMSTANCES AND ITS
CAPABILITIES PERMIT. WITH THIS IN MIND, AND IN ABSENCE OF

SPECIFIC THREAT AGAINST AMBASSADOR, OTHER U.S. PERSONNEL OR U.S. INSTALLATIONS, DEPARTMENT WILL WISH CONSIDER WITHDRAWING SY PROTECTIVE OFFICERS AFTER A PERIOD OF 7-10 DAYS.

2. SINCE SY OFFICERS ARE ARMED AND MAY BE REQUIRED TO USE THEIR WEAPONS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR PROTECTIVE DUTIES, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE POST OBTAIN HOST GOVERNMENT

ASSURANCES OF IMMUNITY TO PROTECT THE SY OFFICERS FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION IN THE DISCHARGE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES.

3. DURING THIS PERIOD OF TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT, KELLY AND DEWITT ARE REQUESTED TO REVIEW HOST GOVERNMENT PROTECTION PROVIDED FOR AMBASSADOR SOLAUN AND SUBMIT TO SY RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ANY NECESSARY UPGRADING OF THE DETAIL WITH REGARDS TO TRAINING AND/OR EQUIPMENT.

4. SUBSEQUENT TO AN ON-SITE REVIEW OF THE COM VEHICLE BY SPECIAL AGENT SHEELY AND SEABEE JACK ELLINWOOD AND THE INSTALLATION OF PARTIAL ARMORING AND LEXAN WINDOW INSERTS BY RTC PANAMA (SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18), DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS UTILIZATION OF ONE OF THE PARTIALLY ARMORED SEDANS CURRENTLY AT POST AS A FOLLOW VEHICLE DURING THIS PERIOD OF TENSION. SHEELY AND ELLINGWOOD'S ONWARD TRAVEL TO SERVICE ARMORED VEHICLE IN SAN SALVADOR
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WILL MAKE POSSIBLE THE TEMPORARY LOAN OF GUATEMALA'S FULLY-ARMORED VEHICLE CURRENTLY IN SAN SALVADOR WHICH, AS INFO ADDRESSEE, EMBASSY GUATEMALA REQUESTED TO APPROVE.

5. SY/FO HAS PREPARED A REQUEST TO ARA/EX FOR THE INCREASE OF THE MSG DETACHMENT AS THE FIRST STEP NECESSARY TO PROVIDE THE ADDITIONAL MARINE GUARDS. ALTHOUGH PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED PERSONNEL CANNOT BE PROGRAMMED FOR A NUMBER OF WEEKS, IT IS HOPED THAT TEMPORARY DUTY PERSONNEL WILL BE AVAILABLE WITHIN THE NEXT SEVEN TO TEN DAYS TO ESTABLISH THE RESIDENTIAL POST.

6. RTC PANAMA WILL PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DESIRED INSTALLATION OF CCTV SYSTEMS AND VARIOUS ALARMS.

7. SY/FO WILL, IN CONJUNCTION WITH FBO, ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF INSTALLING A FENCE, BUT WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE POST AND THE RSO REGARDING ITS PROPOSED LOCATION, NUMBER OF GATES, GATE CONTROL MECHANISM, GATE GUARD POSITIONING, ILLUMINATION, ETC. THE RSO SHOULD CONFER WITH RTC PERSONNEL DURING THEIR INS-

PECTION OF THE RESIDENCE AND SUBMIT A DETAILED PROPOSAL TO
THE DEPARTMENT. CHRISTOPHER

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